Weekly Fire Weather / Fire Danger Outlook For:
UPDATE

Saturday 05 July to Friday 11 July 2003

Eastern Great Basin Predictive Services

Issued Friday 4 July 2003

Weather Discussion:

Strong, southwest flow impacted the Eastern Great Basin from 29 June to 3 July, bringing nearly a week of Red Flag conditions to the western half of Utah and parts of the Snake River Plain in Idaho. A trough over the western U.S. and a high pressure east of the Rockies kept the strong winds in place. High temperatures in the mid 90s to 106 and poor overnight humidity recovery further dried fuels, quickly nullifying the effects of the cool and wet period the 3rd week of June.

A weak flow pattern will persist over Eastern Great Basin through midweek (Wednesday 9 July). A **critical weather pattern** begins to develop by Friday, 11 July, as a splitting trough enters Basin. Strong, southwesterly flow will increase over the area as the southern portion of the trough moves across the Sierras. A northern trough brings a potential for dry thunderstorms to central and southwestern Idaho Friday and Saturday.

Fuels Discussion:

Thousand hour fuel conditions are starting a steady downward trend from last weeks cooler temperatures and moisture, particularly in northern Utah and southern Idaho. The continued hot, dry conditions will keep fine fuels dry where curing is complete at elevations below 6000', and curing will continue at higher elevations. The Bridger-Teton has received more rain than most of the region, keeping fine fuels in the green phase or early curing stages. Fire danger will moderate somewhat the later part of this week as winds diminish. Fire danger will peak during the first half of next week due to increased winds region-wide and a threat of dry lightning in Idaho. Fire danger in the Bridger-Teton area will be normal.

7 Day Forecast Update:

Idaho/Western Wyoming: Payette, Central Idaho, Boise, South Idaho, East Idaho, Bridger-Teton Dispatch Areas

Day/Date	Fire Danger	Weather
Sat - Wed (5-9 Jul)	Snake River Plain south: High	Very dry with locally breezy west to southwest winds and very poor humidity recoveries. Temperatures 4-7 degrees above normal.
Thu – Fri (10-11 Jul)	High - Very High in Idaho	**Possible Red Flag Conditions for winds and low RH. Potential dry thunderstorms central/southwest Idaho.** Otherwise hot, dry, and breezy to windy conditions developing.

Northern Utah: Northern Utah, Uintah Basin Dispatch Areas

Day/Date	Fire Danger	Weather
Sat - Wed (5-9 Jul)	High – Very High	Very dry with locally breezy west to southwest winds and very poor humidity recoveries. Temperatures 4-8 degrees above normal.
Thu - Fri (10-11 Jul)	Very High	**Possible Red Flag Conditions for winds and low RH.** Hot, dry, and windy conditions developing. Strong southwest winds developing. Temperatures 7-11 degrees above normal.

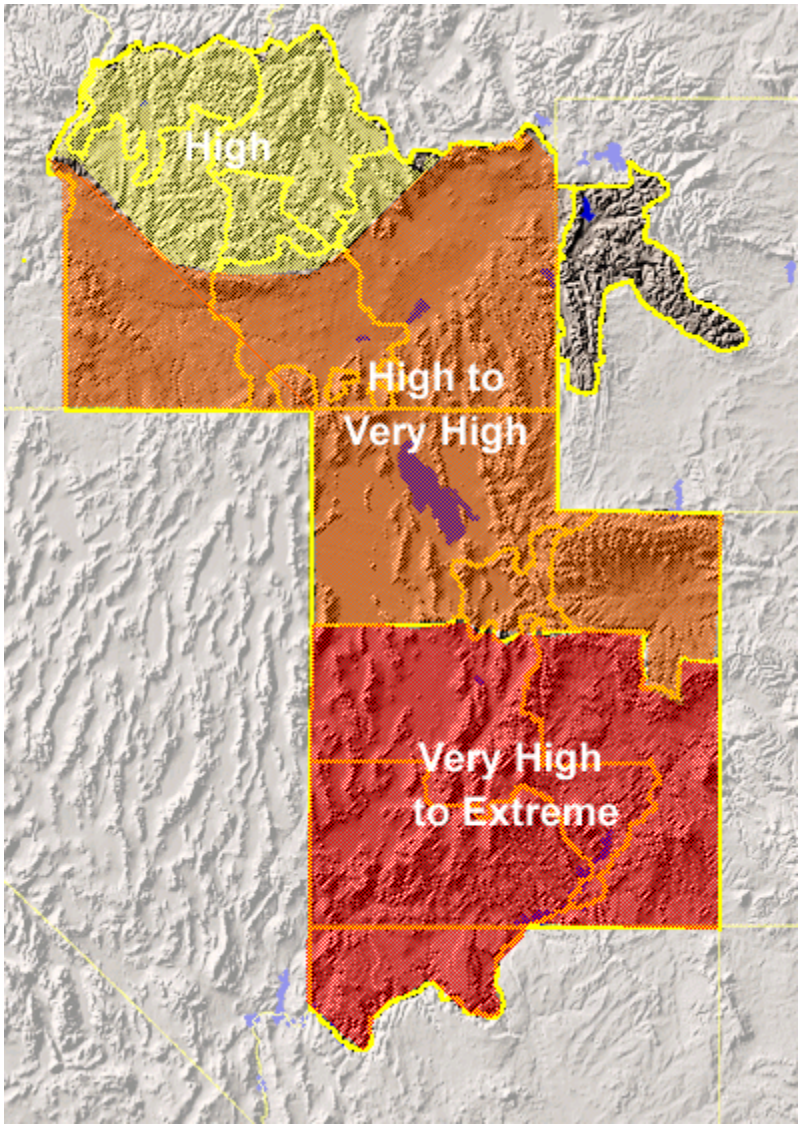
Southern Utah: Richfield, Cedar City, Moab Dispatch Areas

Day/Date	Fire Danger	Weather
Sat - Wed (5-9 Jul)	Very High - Extreme	Hot and very dry with locally breezy west to southwest winds and very poor humidity recoveries. Temperatures 5 – 10 degrees above normal.
Thu - Fri (10-11 Jul)	Extreme	**Possible Red Flag Conditions for winds and low RH.** Hot and dry. Strong southwest winds developing. Temperatures 7-11 degrees above normal.

Resources:
Initial attack activity in Eastern Great Basin has increased somewhat with most centers still having adequate resource to respond. Large fire activity in southern Utah has taped into some of the resources in the region, with no critical shortages at this time. Centers not currently experiencing initial attack activity have resources available to support either within the Geographic Area or nationally. Within Eastern Great Basin resources are expected to be sufficient for the next week for light to moderate initial attack.

As of July 1, 2003 there no Type 1 Crews available within and 17 Type 2 crews available. Within Eastern Great Basin there are four Airtankers, nine SEATs, and smokejumpers available at Cedar City, McCall, Twin Falls, and Ogden.

Fire Danger Map:


High
High to
Very High
Very High
to Extreme